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Ayres, Leonard Porter

A measuring scale for ability in spelling

New York

[c1915]

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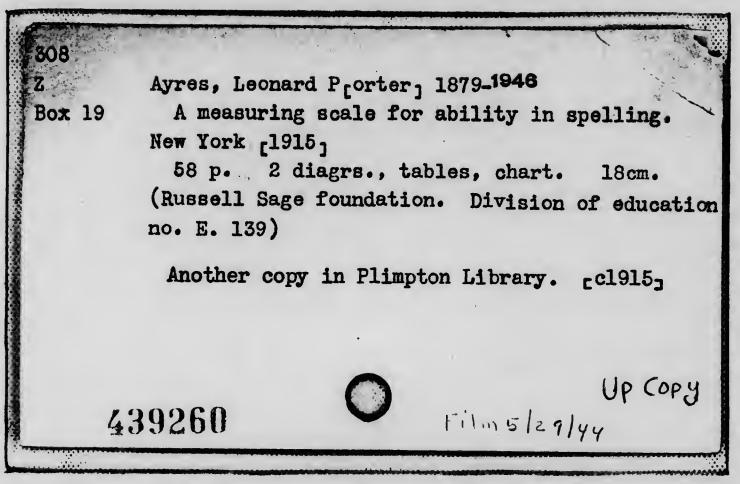

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A MEASURING SCALE FOR ABILITY IN SPELLING

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Boys

LEONARD P. AYRES

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RUSSELL SAGE FOUNDATION
130 EAST TWENTY-SECOND STREET
NEW YORK CITY

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LEONARD P. AYRES

DIVISION OF EDUCATION
RUSSELL SAGE FOUNDATION
130 EAST TWENTY-SECOND STREET
NEW YORK CITY

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A MEASURING SCALE FOR ABILITY IN SPELLING

During 1914 and the earlier months of 1915 the Division of Education of the Russell Sage Foundation has been conducting a study of spelling among school children with the object of developing a scale for measuring attainment in the spelling of common words. The object of this report is to describe the investigation and to present the scale which it has produced.

As a first step, it was decided to select a large number of the commonest words and to have them spelled by many school children in order to locate standards of spelling attainment in the several grades. In undertaking this work, it seemed worth while to have the children spell not merely common words, but the commonest words, in order to have the entire study based on what may be termed a foundation spelling vocabulary.

A Foundation Vocabulary

One thousand words were finally selected as constituting such a foundation vocabulary. They were chosen by combining the results of the four most extensive studies that have attempted to identify the words most commonly used in different sorts of English writing.

The first of these studies was published by the Rev. J. Knowles in London, England, in 1904 in a pamphlet entitled, "The London Point System of Reading for the Blind." The author says of it, "Taking passages from the English Bible and from various authors, containing 100,000 words, a list was made of the 353 words which occurred most frequently, and the number of times each occurred was noted."

The second of the studies was made by R. C. Eldridge of Niagara Falls and the results were published in 1911 in a pamphlet entitled, "Six Thousand Common English Words." Mr. Eldridge made an analysis of the vocabularies of 250 different articles taken from four issues of four Sunday newspapers published in Buffalo. He found that they contained a total vocabulary of 6,002 different words, which with their repetitions made an aggregate of 43,989 running words.

He reported the number of times that each word appeared.

The third study was conducted by the present writer in 1913 and the results were published by the Division of Education of the Russell Sage Foundation in a monograph entitled, "The Spelling Vocabularies of Personal and Business Letters." The study consisted of the tabulation of 23,629 words from 2,000 short letters written by 2,000 people. The total vocabulary used was found to consist of 2,001 different words and the number of appearances of each was reported.

The last of these four studies was carried through by W. A. Cook and M. V. O'Shea and the results presented in 1914 in a book entitled, "The Child and His Spelling," published by the Bobbs-Merrill Company. This study consisted of the tabulation of some 200,000 words taken from the family correspondence of 13 adults. The total vocabulary was found to consist of 5,200 different words and the number of times each occurred was reported.

Frequent Use of a Few Words

There is one salient characteristic common to all of these studies. This is the cumulative

evidence that a few words do most of our work when we write. In every one of the studies it was found that about nine words recur so frequently that they constitute in the aggregate one-fourth of the whole number of words written, while about 50 words constitute with their repetitions one-half of all the words we write. With the exception of *very*, these words are all monosyllables.

It seems reasonable to argue from such evidence that we should do well to find out from such studies as these which words those are that constitute the foundation vocabulary used in ordinary English writing and teach them in our schools so thoroughly that the children by every day use would permanently master them. It seems equally clear that such a list of words forms a better basis for determining standards of spelling attainment than would one made of less commonly used words. For these reasons it was determined to combine the results of the several studies so as to secure the most reliable available list as a foundation for the work.

At first the purpose was to identify the 2,000 most commonly used words, but this project was abandoned because it was soon found to be impossible of realization. It is

easily possible to identify the 10 commonest words in written English. These are probably *the, and, of, to, I, a, in, that, you, for*. With their repetitions they constitute more than one-fourth of all the words we write. Save for the personal pronouns, they are essential in writing about any subject, whatever its nature, from Aaron through zythum. It is likewise possible to identify the 50 commonest words, for, like the first 10, they are true construction words and necessary, no matter what the nature of the subject under consideration. With progressively decreasing reliability the list may be extended to include the 500 commonest words and possibly the 1,000 commonest, but not the 2,000 commonest, for long before this point is reached the identity of the frequently used words varies according to the subject under consideration. For this reason it was decided to limit the foundation vocabulary to 1,000 words.

The Thousand Commonest Words

The list of 1,000 words finally selected was determined upon by finding the frequency with which each word appeared in the tabulations of each study, weighting that frequency

according to the size of the base of which it was a part, adding the four frequencies thus obtained, and finding their average. The resulting figure shows how many times the word was repeated in each 100,000 words of written English. The aggregate amount of written material analyzed in securing these results was approximately 368,000 words, written by some 2,500 different persons. More than two-thirds of the material consisted of personal and business letters.

The tabulation of these frequencies furnished a list of several thousand words which were arranged in the descending order of the frequencies with which they occurred. From this list the 1,000 commonest words were selected and have been used as the basis for the present study. These words, together with the figures showing the frequency of appearance of each, per 100,000 running words, are given in List A beginning on page 12. The figures inserted after each 50 words show the cumulative frequencies from the beginning. Thus the first of these figures shows that the 50 commonest words are repeated so frequently that with their repetitions they constitute nearly half of all the words we write. The first 300 words make up more than three-

fourths of all writing of this kind and the 1,000 words with their repetitions constitute more than nine-tenths of this sort of written material.

In making up this list, there has been no attempt to reduce all the words to a dictionary basis. Instead the attempt has been to include all the forms of the words which present different spelling difficulties. Thus the various forms of the verb "be" are included as separate words because they present separate spelling difficulties. In the same way "man" and "men," "woman" and "women," are included for the same reason. On the other hand, plurals and verb forms presenting no characteristic spelling difficulties beyond those inherent in the singular or infinitive have not been included. This procedure has necessitated making many arbitrary decisions, but in each case the controlling purpose has been to make each decision on the basis of spelling difficulty.

While the frequencies appearing in List A have been derived as described, it should be explained that not all of the commonest words of the Cook-O'Shea list appear in this new list. This is because their publication did not appear until the present work was well under

way and most of the spelling tests had been concluded. However, careful efforts have been made to include all words appearing so frequently that the evidence seemed to warrant their inclusion. While the present list of commonest words can be improved upon, still it is believed to be more reliable as a foundation spelling vocabulary than any one of the previous lists.

LIST A. THE THOUSAND COMMONEST WORDS ARRANGED IN THE DESCENDING ORDER OF THEIR FREQUENCY. THE FIGURES INDICATE THE NUMBER OF OCCURRENCES PER EACH HUNDRED THOUSAND RUNNING WORDS. THE FIGURES INSERTED AFTER EACH FIFTY WORDS ARE CUMULATIVE FREQUENCIES FROM THE BEGINNING

the	6,393	on	667	would	362
and	3,438	he	619	she	359
of	3,422	by	611	or	348
to	3,217	but	572	there	341
I	2,387	my	557	her	311
a	1,911	this	551	an	298
in	1,904	his	543		49,615
that	1,422	which	540		
you	1,306	dear	523	when	288
for	1,241	from	488	time	279
it	1,197	are	468	go	277
was	991	all	448	some	273
is	931	me	444	any	257
will	873	so	432	can	250
as	854	one	428	what	244
have	846	if	408	send	242
not	831	they	400	out	238
with	822	had	397	them	238
be	816	has	391	him	233
your	793	very	383	more	232
at	698	were	368	about	220
we	695	been	370	no	220

please	211	made	144	get	101
week	211	know	143	into	99
night	206	year	143	let	98
their	205	before	138	yesterday	98
other	203	long	137	come	97
up	201	sincerely	135	ever	97
our	200	shall	133	girl	97
good	198	sent	131	also	96
say	198	us	131	where	96
could	193	give	130	while	96
who	192	Mr.	129	did	95
may	189	like	128	little	95
letter	188	enclose	126	look	94
make	185	next	125	respectfully	94
write	182	want	125	afternoon	93
thing	181	hope	122	Miss	93
think	180	love	121	those	93
should	178	men	121	too	93
truly	178	old	118	man	92
now	177	every	117	own	92
its	175	find	117	receive	91
two	173	most	117	soon	91
take	172	such	117	once	89
thank	170	today	117	street	88
do	169	must	116	ask	87
after	168	way	116	down	87
than	167	first	115	yet	87
sir	163	new	113	see	86
last	161	seem	113	since	86
house	160	morning	112	cannot	85
just	160	school	112	help	85
over	160	great	111	away	83
then	159	wish	110	course	83
work	158	home	109	through	83
day	157	feel	106	call	82
here	157	glad	106	meet	82
	59,591	never	106	people	80
		three	106	another	79
said	153	much	105	number	78
only	151	how	103	place	78
well	151	until	103	Sunday	78
am	147	many	102	use	78
these	146	put	102	church	77
tell	145		65,759	nice	77
even	144			sure	77

anything	76
hour	76
children	75
don't	75
four	75
	70,122
kind	75
oblige	75
nothing	74
off	74
believe	73
boy	73
city	73
found	72
pay	72
tomorrow	71
doctor	70
five	70
o'clock	70
read	70
back	69
enough	69
fine	69
order	69
bed	68
cold	68
live	68
mail	68
few	67
hear	66
child	65
mother	65
return	65
same	65
almost	64
because	64
big	64
Monday	64
month	64
start	64
always	63
both	63
cordially	63
expect	63
mean	63
quite	63
Saturday	63
again	62
Friday	62
something	62
talk	62
though	62
office	61
Tuesday	61
best	60
came	60
	73,452
says	60
car	59
ground	59
room	59
thought	59
under	59
board	58
far	58
nine	58
without	58
arrest	57
trip	57
cent	56
right	56
side	56
Thursday	56
friend	55
bad	54
late	54
money	54
need	54
still	54
book	53
hand	53
mile	53
paper	53
party	53
word	53
madam	52
six	52
ten	52
why	52
perhaps	51
answer	50
half	50
keep	50
life	50
ago	49
business	49
does	49
each	49
eight	49
knew	49
picture	49
show	49
build	48
care	48
eye	48
gentleman	48
head	48
	76,111
left	48
whether	48
interest	47
January	47
present	47
teacher	47
tire	47
upon	47
young	47
done	46
high	46
sorry	46
train	46
whom	46
broke	45
during	45
feet	45
itself	45
several	45
brought	44
everything	44
run	44
took	44
better	43

lost	43
possible	43
September	43
sick	43
visit	43
went	43
act	42
begin	42
desire	42
eat	42
guess	42
hard	42
line	42
mind	42
October	42
poor	42
remember	42
Wednesday	42
women	42
wonder	42
conference	41
died	41
glass	41
held	41
less	41
understand	41
	78,302
along	40
August	40
evening	40
father	40
forenoon	40
large	40
meant	40
seven	40
address	39
charge	39
family	39
finish	39
hot	39
known	39
least	39
plan	39
saw	39
seen	39
whole	39
whose	39
action	38
change	38
court	38
follow	38
matter	38
cost	37
February	37
lady	37
part	37
reply	37
spend	37
attend	36
case	36
fall	36
however	36
July	36
report	36
speak	36
vote	36
wife	36
bring	35
company	35
cut	35
member	35
November	35
open	35
reach	35
regard	35
woman	35
according	34
	80,175
between	34
bill	34
certain	34
copy	34
deal	34
director	34
might	34
move	34
rain	34
small	34
summer	34
together	34
against	33
clean	33
decide	33
issue	33
Mrs.	33
near	33
prompt	33
question	33
ring	33
sit	33
stamp	33
turn	33
winter	33
busy	32
folks	32
happy	32
lake	32
maybe	32
obtain	32
pass	32
ran	32
study	32
become	31
December	31
dress	31
early	31
either	31
end	31
except	31
farther	31
heard	31
March	31
person	31
rather	31
water	31
written	31
April	30
Christmas	30
	81,794
country	30
fact	30
herself	30

immediate	30
marriage	30
May	30
provision	30
reason	30
slide	30
story	30
unfortunate	30
arrange	29
awful	29
complete	29
fire	29
forget	29
gave	29
kill	29
mere	29
nearly	29
neither	29
noon	29
past	29
service	29
unless	29
aunt	28
ball	28
character	28
full	28
further	28
learn	28
often	28
principle	28
ride	28
second	28
sister	28
size	28
state	28
thus	28
yes	28
afraid	27
annual	27
automobile	27
coming	27
date	27
heart	27
law	27
name	27
running	27
separate	27
	83,220
sold	27
told	27
although	26
among	26
association	26
close	26
club	26
dollar	26
evidence	26
form	26
himself	26
intend	26
June	26
list	26
public	26
station	26
table	26
true	26
already	25
appreciate	25
body	25
clear	25
cover	25
driven	25
fair	25
getting	25
got	25
instead	25
pleasant	25
price	25
relative	25
rule	25
son	25
song	25
sudden	25
throw	25
war	25
west	25
world	25
accept	24
alone	24
arrive	24
began	24
carry	24
distribute	24
earliest	24
effort	24
hat	24
justice	24
lose	24
	84,479
lot	24
material	24
nor	24
sometimes	24
struck	24
unable	24
various	24
anyway	23
band	23
boat	23
dark	23
difference	23
door	23
enter	23
face	23
husband	23
importance	23
lead	23
light	23
offer	23
pleasure	23
prepare	23
refer	23
represent	23
rest	23
river	23
scene	23
special	23
stand	23
stop	23
trust	23
try	23
walk	23
warm	23

weather	23
condition	22
different	22
else	22
especially	22
game	22
grant	22
indeed	22
liberty	22
necessary	22
object	22
paid	22
plant	22
popular	22
post	22
pretty	22
	85,621
prison	22
road	22
section	22
subject	22
success	22
supply	22
system	22
tax	22
allow	21
amount	21
appoint	21
expense	21
felt	21
fifth	21
fill	21
front	21
information	21
miss	21
none	21
press	21
red	21
salary	21
secure	21
set	21
tenth	21
ticket	21
usual	21
wait	21
worth	21
beside	20
bought	20
built	20
buy	20
carried	20
destroy	20
direction	20
fell	20
fourth	20
grand	20
hold	20
inform	20
lay	20
leave	20
length	20
loss	20
mine	20
ought	20
outside	20
pair	20
probably	20
	86,658
ready	20
real	20
request	20
spring	20
stay	20
stole	20
themselves	20
third	20
top	20
toward	20
watch	20
wrote	20
account	19
across	19
around	19
card	19
cause	19
death	19
divide	19
doubt	19
drown	19
easy	19
escape	19
free	19
gone	19
happen	19
hurt	19
led	19
low	19
mention	19
promise	19
result	19
select	19
serve	19
soap	19
suggest	19
teach	19
terrible	19
therefore	19
uncle	19
absence	18
article	18
became	18
behind	18
brother	18
dead	18
delay	18
drill	18
effect	18
employ	18
	87,610
entire	18
entrance	18
extreme	18
fix	18
forty	18
general	18
objection	18
perfect	18
period	18
rapid	18
region	18
remain	18
repair	18

sail	18
search	18
short	18
stood	18
suppose	18
view	18
white	18
able	17
above	17
assure	17
auto	17
baby	17
catch	17
duty	17
education	17
extra	17
fail	17
foot	17
forward	17
goes	17
government	17
impossible	17
include	17
income	17
increase	17
inside	17
investigate	17
judgment	17
navy	17
omit	17
opinion	17
police	17
position	17
power	17
prefer	17
proper	17
push	17
	88,480
raise	17
really	17
round	17
shut	17
tonight	17
total	17
trouble	17
aboard	16
air	16
appear	16
beautiful	16
burn	16
capture	16
career	16
check	16
contain	16
deep	16
direct	16
dozen	16
east	16
elect	16
election	16
engage	16
express	16
final	16
finally	16
gold	16
horse	16
motion	16
north	16
occupy	16
preliminary	16
principal	16
proceed	16
provide	16
refuse	16
relief	16
retire	16
shed	16
sight	16
south	16
spent	16
stopped	16
vacation	16
weigh	16
wind	16
wonderful	16
add	15
affair	15
attempt	15
	89,284
black	15
claim	15
common	15
convenient	15
convention	15
daughter	15
declare	15
estate	15
event	15
factory	15
favor	15
God	15
illustrate	15
injure	15
lesson	15
minute	15
news	15
political	15
prove	15
rate	15
soft	15
suffer	15
surprise	15
tree	15
wear	15
within	15
yard	15
age	14
athletic	14
attention	14
avenue	14
bear	14
begun	14
belong	14
camp	14
cast	14
circular	14
class	14
clothing	14
collect	14
colonies	14
combination	14
comfort	14
complaint	14
consideration	14

disappoint	14
distinguish	14
due	14
feature	14
field	14
	90,011
firm	14
human	14
manner	14
neighbor	14
progress	14
recent	14
sea	14
session	14
statement	14
suit	14
theater	14
visitor	14
agreement	13
alike	13
allege	13
application	13
argument	13
arrangement	13
beg	13
chief	13
cities	13
clerk	13
command	13
committee	13
concern	13
consider	13
contract	13
crowd	13
dash	13
debate	13
decision	13
degree	13
department	13
diamond	13
difficulty	13
discussion	13
district	13
elaborate	13
emergency	13
empire	13
engine	13
enjoy	13
entertain	13
entitle	13
estimate	13
experience	13
fight	13
figure	13
file	13
flight	13
	90,673
flower	13
foreign	13
guest	13
history	13
important	13
imprison	13
improvement	13
jail	13
newspaper	13
organization	13
personal	13
piece	13
play	13
primary	13
receipt	13
responsible	13
restrain	13
royal	13
secretary	13
spell	13
stone	13
summon	13
testimony	13
track	13
travel	13
victim	13
accident	12
addition	12
adopt	12
army	12
assist	12
associate	12
await	12
beginning	12
block	12
blow	12
blue	12
born	12
box	12
bridge	12
celebration	12
center	12
century	12
chain	12
circumstance	12
citizen	12
connection	12
convict	12
develop	12
examination	12
	91,299
famous	12
fortune	12
height	12
honor	12
ice	12
inspect	12
invitation	12
judge	12
land	12
ledge	12
local	12
machine	12
majority	12
mayor	12
measure	12
mountain	12
national	12
official	12
organize	12
page	12
particular	12
point	12
population	12
pound	12

practical	12	**railroad**	12	**term**	12
president	12	**recommend**	12	**town**	12
print	12	**recover**	12	**treasure**	12
private	12	**reference**	12	**vessel**	12
property	12	**senate**	12	**volume**	12
publication	12	**serious**	12	**wire**	12
publish	12	**ship**	12	**witness**	12
purpose	12	**steamer**	12	**wreck**	12
race	12	**support**	12		91,899

Co-operation of City Superintendents

When the 1,000 words had been selected, letters were written to city superintendents of schools throughout the country asking if they would co-operate in the work by having lists of 20 words each given as spelling tests in all the grades of their school systems from the second through the eighth. Almost without exception they generously agreed to undertake this part of the work, and satisfactory returns were finally secured from the following 84 cities:

Akron, Ohio
Albany, N. Y.
Asbury Park, N. J.
Atlanta, Ga.
Auburn, N. Y.
Augusta, Ga.
Bangor, Me.
Bay City, Mich.
Bayonne, N. J.
Boise, Idaho
Bridgeport, Ct.
Brockton, Mass.
Burlington, Vt.
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Chicopee, Mass.
Colorado Springs, Colo.
Columbus, Ohio
Covington, Ky.
Cripple Creek, Colo.
Cumberland, Md.
Danville, Ill.
Denver, Colo.
Des Moines, Iowa
Detroit, Mich.
Dubuque, Iowa
Duluth, Minn.

East Orange, N. J.
Elizabeth, N. J.
Evanston, Ill.
Evansville, Ind.
Fall River, Mass.
Fitchburg, Mass.
Fort Wayne, Ind.
Galesburg, Ill.
Grand Rapids, Mich.
Greenwich, Ct.
Harrisburg, Pa.
Haverhill, Mass.
Indianapolis, Ind.
Jackson, Mich.
Jersey City, N. J.
Joliet, Ill.
Kalamazoo, Mich.
Kenosha, Wis.
Lawrence, Mass.
Lewiston, Me.
Louisville, Ky.
Manchester, N. H.
Michigan City, Ind.
Middletown, Ct.
Minneapolis, Minn.
Mobile, Ala.
Montclair, N. J.
Muncie, Ind.
Muskegon, Mich.
Nashua, N. H.
New Bedford, Mass.
New Orleans, La.
Newport, Ky.
Newport, R. I.
Newton, Mass.
Oklahoma City, Okla.
Oshkosh, Wis.
Passaic, N. J.
Pittsburg, Pa.
Plainfield, N. J.
Portland, Me.
Raleigh, N. C.
Reading, Pa.
Richmond, Ind.
Richmond, Va.
St. Joseph, Mo.
Schenectady, N. Y.
Somerville, Mass.
South Bend, Ind.
South Manchester, Ct.
Springfield, Mass.
Syracuse, N. Y.
Terre Haute, Ind.
Trenton, N. J.
Utica, N. Y.
Waltham, Mass.
Woonsocket, R. I.
Worcester, Mass.

Giving the Tests

The 1,000 words were first made up into 50 lists of 20 words each and these lists were given as dictated spelling tests. Each list of words was first spelled by the children of two consecutive grades in a number of cities. The work was done at the mid-point of the school year and so arranged in each case as to test the spelling attainment of the children

who had completed just half the work of each grade. Where words have more than one meaning for the same pronunciation, the meaning desired was indicated by giving a short illustrative sentence.

As a control and check, words were next taken from each of the 50 lists and recombined in new sets of 20 words each and sent out as tests in each of four consecutive grades in the different cities. These two sets of testing were continued until an aggregate of 1,400,000 spellings had been secured from 70,000 children in 84 cities. The results constitute the basis of the present scale.

Problems in Scale Making

To be both valid and convenient, a scale for measuring attainment in spelling should consist of a series of groups of words so arranged that all the words in each group are of equal spelling difficulty, and with the group so arranged that the step in spelling difficulty from any one group to the next higher group will be equal to any other step on the scale from one group to the next higher group.

In the present work, words have been considered as of equal spelling difficulty if they are correctly spelled by an equal proportion

of children who have had the same amount of training in spelling, which is to say, by children of the same school grade. It is essential that the words should be of equal difficulty in order to avoid the defect of the ordinary schoolroom test in spelling in which words of greatly varying difficulty are put together in a single 10 or 20 word spelling list, and the pupils' papers marked by taking 10 or 5 points off for each word misspelled. The assumption in such a test is that all the words are equally difficult, whereas this is almost never even approximately true.

The reason why words have been rated as of equal difficulty for given grades in the present study is that it has been found impossible to group them as of equal difficulty for people in general or for school children in general. This is because the easier words are of no difficulty at all for pupils who have had much training, while the same words are of real and varying difficulty for those who have had little training. Similarly, harder words may be of absolute difficulty for children of the lower grades, while they are of varying degrees of difficulty for those of the upper grades. Hence, words can be grouped as of equal difficulty only when we find that they

are of equal difficulty for people who have had equal amounts of training; for example, school children of a given grade. Moreover, a valid scale should embrace only words that are normally within the usual writing vocabularies of the children, for otherwise words will be rated as of high degrees of difficulty which are in reality simply unusual. This consideration has been cared for in the present work by confining the entire study to the most commonly used words.

Locating the Equal Steps on the Scale

After the degree of difficulty of each word for pupils of a given grade had been ascertained by finding what per cent of the pupils could spell it correctly, the next problem was to arrange the words in groups which should be of such progressive degrees of difficulty that all the steps in difficulty from one group to the next, to the next, and so on, should be equal steps. It was necessary to insure that the words in the second group should be as much harder than those in the first, as those in the third were harder than those in the second, and so on for all the successive groups of the scale. The final purpose was to locate these

groups at equally spaced steps on a scale from 0 to 100.

The method employed in locating the equal steps on the scale was based on the assumption that spelling ability conforms in general to what is known as the normal distribution.

Spelling Ability and the Normal Distribution

This assumption is based on the well known principle that intellectual abilities are distributed in much the same way among people as are physical traits. Just as there are in a normal population very few dwarfs, many people of about medium height, and very few giants, so there are very few exceedingly poor spellers, many medium ones, and very few truly excellent ones. That this assumption was valid in the present case will be shown later.

The so-called normal curve illustrating such a distribution is reproduced in Diagram 1. The properties of the normal curve have been most accurately determined. Let us suppose that this represents the distribution of spelling ability among a large number of third grade children.

The area enclosed between the curve and

the base line represents all the children ranged according to spelling ability. At the extreme left the curve is very near the base which indicates the small number of very poor spellers.

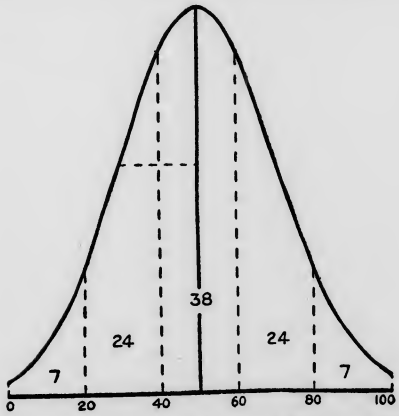

Diagram 1.—Surface of normal distribution with base line five times the sigma distance in length and divided as a scale running from 0 to 100

In the middle the curve is distant from the base representing the large proportion of medium spellers. At the right the curve is again very near the base representing the

small proportion of excellent spellers. The median line at the 50 per cent point represents the average ability.

The dotted horizontal line from the median to the curve represents the sigma distance and intersects the curve at the point at which it changes from convex to concave. This distance is always a constant function of the curve of normal distribution and in the present study has been chosen as the basis of the measurements along the base line. If we lay out on the base a distance equal to this sigma distance and in such a way that it shall extend equally to the left and right of the 50 per cent point where the median bisects the base, its left end will reach the point marked 40 and its right the one marked 60. If now we lay out the same sigma distance two more times to the left, we shall have the points marked 20 and 0, and by doing the same on the right, we shall have the points marked 80 and 100.

In thus dividing the base into five equal parts, each equal to the sigma distance, and calling the extremes 0 and 100, we are taking liberties with the curve of normal distribution for the base and the curves do not actually meet at these points. In theory the two lines are in asymptote and could be indefinitely ex-

Diagram 2.—Heading of the scale as finally arranged. This reproduction is one-fourth the length of the actual scale, which is 21 inches long. The words as arranged in List C are printed in the 26 columns from A to Z

tended, always getting nearer together but never touching. In theory about 99.4 per cent of all the cases lie to the right of the point indicated as 0 and some six-tenths of one per cent of them lie to the left. For the purpose of the present study, it has been considered sufficiently accurate to call the point 0 and to assume that all the cases lie to the right. A corresponding assumption is made with respect to the 100 point at the right end of the line.

On the basis of these assumptions, we find that the area of the curve beginning at the left and extending as far as the vertical line at the point 20 is seven per cent of the total. Between this line and the one at point 40 are 24 per cent of the cases, making a total to this point of 31 per cent. From here to point 60 are 38 per cent, making a total from the beginning of 69 per cent. From this point to point 80 are 24 per cent of the cases, making a total of 93 per cent, and from here to 100 are the remaining seven cases.

Scaling the Words

Now we find that among third grade children in general seven in each 100 fail in the attempt to spell the word *has*, while 93 spell it cor-

rectly. Thus if we imagine the normal curve of Diagram 1 as representing 100 typical third grade children ranked according to spelling ability with the worst at the left and the rest in order of ability to the right, we should find that the line at point 20 would fall at such a place that the seven in the 100 who fail on *has* would be to the left of the line while the 93 who can spell it would be on the right. In a similar way the line at 40 would leave on the left the 31 children who fail on *almost* and on its right the 69 who spell it correctly. By this same method all of the words have been located according to their location on a line representing the distance in spelling difficulty from the word so easy that just all can spell it correctly to the one at the other extreme so difficult that none can quite spell it correctly. This is the line from 0 to 100 difficulty and the words have all been located on it according to equal steps of distance.

In order to do this, each of the five divisions shown on the base line of Diagram 1 has been subdivided into five equal parts, making a total of 25 steps for the entire scale from 0 to 100. The average of all the values that might theoretically be contained in each of these 25 steps has thus been determined to the

nearest whole number and this value has been assigned to the step. These 25 values are 100, 99, 98, 96, 94, 92, 88, 84, 79, 73, 66, 58, 50, 42, 34, 27, 21, 16, 12, 8, 6, 4, 2, 1, 0. They have been used to identify the 25 steps and they indicate the average per cent of correct spellings found among the children of the grade in question, in their spelling of the words placed on the scale at that step. For example, the nine words, *the, in, so, no, now, man, ten, bed, top,* are shown on the scale as at step 94 for the second grade. This indicates that the average per cent correct among second grade attempts to spell these words was 94.

Combining the Scales for the Seven Grades

Since the first data returned by the co-operating school systems consisted of figures showing the number of children succeeding and failing in spelling the words in each of two consecutive grades, it was possible to compute the amount of improvement in spelling the same words from grade to grade. It was possible, that is, to find how much better the third grade children spelled the words than the second grade ones, how much better

records the fourth grade pupils made than did the third grade ones in spelling the same words, and so on for all the grades.

When these figures, showing average improvement from grade to grade, were reduced to terms of the 25-division spelling scale that has been described on page 30, it was found that the improvement of the third grade over the second averaged about three steps; that of the fourth over the third averaged about three steps; and the improvement of each of the other five grades over its preceding grade averaged about two steps.

These computations of the average shift in spelling ability were then checked up by combining with them the data for the sets of words spelled in four consecutive grades and the results remained nearly unchanged. A further check was then made by computing the shift found from grade to grade by Dr. B. R. Buckingham in his study entitled, "Spelling Ability," published in 1913 by Teachers College, Columbia University. A fourth check was made by comparing with these results those reported by Dr. Buckingham for the use of Dr. J. M. Rice's spelling test. The results of the three investigations all reduced to terms of the 25-step scale of

the present study showed average grade shifts as follows:

Grade	Ayres	Buckingham	Rice
2nd to 3rd	2.9	3.2	..
3rd to 4th	2.9	2.9	..
4th to 5th	1.9	1.9	2.1
5th to 6th	2.2	2.2	1.8
6th to 7th	1.9	1.6	1.9
7th to 8th	2.0	2.1	2.1
Total	13.8	13.9	

In view of the supporting evidence offered by these several checks, it was decided to adopt, for combining the several scales into one, shifts in advancing spelling ability from grade to grade as follows: second to third, three steps; third to fourth, three steps; fourth to fifth, two steps; fifth to sixth, two steps; sixth to seventh, two steps; seventh to eighth, two steps.

On this basis the scales for the seven grades were put together, one below the other as illustrated on page 28, so that the third grade scale extends three steps beyond the second grade one; the fourth grade scale is three steps beyond the third grade one; and each of the other scales is located two steps beyond its predecessor.

Testing the Location of the Words

When the headings representing the seven grade scales were thus superimposed on each other with the appropriate shifts from grade to grade, the 1,000 words were entered in the columns below. Their theoretical spelling difficulty in each grade according to the scales was then compared with their difficulties as indicated by the tests in the 84 cities. The results showed that the conformity was so close that if as many as 10 words in one column were considered as a group, the agreement was nearly exact; that among the individual words the very great majority had classroom records in agreement with their scale locations; and that the words spelled in the classrooms by the greatest numbers of children conformed most exactly. These bits of evidence all point in one direction and that is toward the substantiation of the hypothesis that spelling ability among homogeneous groups of school children approximately conforms to the normal distribution. If it followed some radically differing type of distribution, the several scales could not fit together as they do.

Final Arrangement of the Scale

In its final arrangement, the scale consists of the seven grade scales so superimposed upon each other as to indicate the approximate shifts from grade to grade and with the 1,000 words entered in 26 columns below. This is shown by the illustration on page 28, which reproduces in miniature the heading of the scale and indicates the columns in which the words are printed in the scale itself. The scale as printed for convenient classroom use is a sheet of paper measuring some 14 by 24 inches with the heading as illustrated on page 28 printed across the top, the 1,000 words entered in the appropriate columns, and the directions for use printed in the lower left hand corner.

In order to facilitate identification and reference, the 26 columns of the scale are designated by the letters from A to Z. The 1,000 words are listed in these columns. In order to complete the record and description as presented in this monograph, these words are published here in Lists B and C beginning on pages 43 and 51 respectively. In List B, the 1,000 words are presented in alphabetic order and beside each is the letter indicating the

column in which that word is found on the scale. In List C, the words are presented in columns from A through Z, just as they are published in the scale in its final form.

All the words in each column of the scale are of approximately equal spelling difficulty. The steps in spelling difficulty from each column to the next are approximately equal steps. The numbers at the top of each column on the scale indicate about what per cent of correct spellings of the words in that column may be expected among the children of the different grades. For example, reference to the scale headings as reproduced on page 28 and the words of column H as printed beginning on page 51 will show that if 20 words from this column are given as a spelling test, it may be expected that the average score for an entire second grade spelling them will be about 79 per cent. This will be more clearly understood by referring to the scale as printed on the large sheet for classroom use. The average score for an entire third grade taking the same tests should be about 92 per cent, for a fourth grade about 98 per cent, and for a fifth grade about 100 per cent.

The limits of the groups are as follows: 50 means from 46 through 54 per cent; 58 means

from 55 through 62 per cent; 66 means from 63 through 69 per cent; 73 means from 70 through 76 per cent; 79 means from 77 through 81 per cent; 84 means from 82 through 86 per cent; 88 means from 87 through 90 per cent; 92 means from 91 through 93 per cent; 94 means 94 and 95 per cent; 96 means 96 and 97 per cent; while 98, 99, and 100 per cent are separate groups.

By means of these groupings, a child's spelling ability may be located in terms of grades. Thus, if a child were given a 20 word spelling test from the words of column 0 and spelled 15 words, or 75 per cent of them, correctly, it would be proper to say that he showed fourth grade spelling ability. If he spelled correctly 17 words, or 85 per cent, he would show fifth grade ability, and so on.

All of the scales have been arbitrarily cut off at 50 per cent, partly because it is doubtful whether any useful teaching purpose is served by testing children on words of which they cannot spell more than 50 per cent correctly, and partly because children of the lower grades attempting to spell difficult words frequently fail, not because of the inherent difficulty of the spelling, but because the word form is not yet definitely a part of the chil-

dren's regular vocabulary. Thus the record in spelling these words becomes unreliable and it was considered wisest to omit from the scale the numbers showing the scores which children spelling such words would make.

Length of Words and Spelling Difficulty

A mere inspection of the scale shows that practically all of the easier words in the first columns are monosyllables. In the middle of the scale are many words of medium difficulty and medium length. At the right hand are found words of greater difficulty and greater length. Thus it is clear that there is a considerable positive correlation between length and difficulty. If we consider the respective difficulties of the words in the 26 columns as being represented by consecutive numbers running from 1 to 26 and compute the correlation between these difficulties and the lengths of the words in these columns, we get a Pearson coefficient of correlation of .734. This close relationship between the length of the words and their difficulty is probably to be accounted for in part by the fact that mere length tends to increase spelling difficulty and

in addition, the longer the word is, the more opportunities it presents for difficult combinations of letters and difficulties arising through inaccurate pronunciation. The correlation between the spelling difficulties and the lengths of the words, computed by the Spearman method, gives a coefficient of .882, while the percentage of unlike signed pairs gives a coefficient of .767 and Galton's graphic method one of .78.

Use and Limitations

The scale that has been produced by this study should be found useful in three ways. In the first place, it consists of a list of 1,000 words which probably constitute a most valuable foundation spelling vocabulary.

In the second place, these words are presented in the final scale in groups of approximately equal spelling difficulty. These groups, which are also printed as List C of the present publication, furnish more reliable material for spelling tests than has heretofore been available. This is because the words of each list are of nearly equal difficulty and hence in using them in spelling tests all of the units of the test are of nearly equal value.

In the third place, the scale is so arranged as to indicate about what percentage of children in the several grades in cities throughout the country succeed in spelling the words correctly. By means of these standards children of the different grades in any locality may be tested as to their spelling attainment and the results compared with those which are found in the corresponding grades in city systems in general. When such tests are made of the spelling attainment of large numbers of children in the different grades in any one locality, the results may be compared with considerable reliability with those here presented for the 84 cities which co-operated in the present study. With less reliability the attainment of a smaller number of grades or of one grade may be tested. With still less reliability the attainment of a single child may be compared with these average results.

In all such testing it must be remembered that the present scale or any scale for measuring spelling attainment will become increasingly and rapidly less reliable for measuring purposes as the children become more accustomed to spelling these particular words. In proportion as these lists are used for the purposes of classroom drill, the scale will become

untrustworthy as a measuring instrument. Probably the scale will have served its greatest usefulness in any locality when the school children have mastered these 1,000 words so thoroughly that the scale has become quite useless as a measuring instrument.

LIST B. THE THOUSAND WORDS ARRANGED IN ALPHABETIC ORDER. THE LETTERS INDICATE THE COLUMNS IN WHICH THE WORDS ARE LOCATED IN THE FINAL SCALE

a	C	already	R	assure	U
able	L	also	M	at	B
aboard	O	although	Q	athletic	W
about	H	always	N	attempt	Q
above	L	am	E	attend	O
absence	T	among	N	attention	R
accept	T	amount	P	August	O
accident	T	an	E	aunt	N
according	R	and	B	auto	P
account	M	annual	X	automobile	T
across	K	another	L	avenue	R
act	N	answer	P	await	Q
action	Q	any	K	away	I
add	I	anything	L	awful	P
addition	Q	anyway	M	baby	H
address	O	appear	O	back	I
adopt	R	application	U	bad	E
affair	S	appoint	Q	ball	H
afraid	O	appreciate	W	band	J
after	I	April	N	be	F
afternoon	K	are	G	bear	K
again	M	argument	T	beautiful	P
against	R	army	M	became	K
age	J	around	K	because	L
ago	E	arrange	Q	become	K
agreement	U	arrangement	V	bed	D
air	J	arrest	Q	been	N
alike	I	arrive	S	before	L
all	F	article	R	beg	P
allege	Z	as	H	began	L
allow	Q	ask	H	begin	M
almost	M	assist	S	beginning	U
alone	L	associate	T	begun	M
along	J	association	V	behind	K

believe	S
belong	H
beside	M
best	I
better	K
between	O
big	G
blll	J
black	L
block	I
blow	I
blue	J
board	O
boat	J
body	L
book	F
born	M
both	M
bought	M
box	H
boy	F
bridge	N
bring	H
broke	N
brother	K
brought	M
build	M
built	N
burn	K
business	T
busy	R
but	F
buy	L
by	G
call	H
came	I
camp	K
can	C
cannot	J
capture	N
car	J
card	J
care	K
career	V
carried	P
carry	N
case	M
cast	J
catch	L
cause	N
celebration	T
cent	K
center	N
century	S
certain	S
chain	N
change	M
character	W
charge	M
check	N
chief	O
child	G
children	M
Christmas	R
church	L
circular	T
circumstance	U
cities	P
citizen	U
city	K
claim	Q
class	K
clean	K
clear	K
clerk	P
close	L
clothing	L
club	K
cold	G
collect	M
colonies	U
combination	R
come	G
comfort	O
coming	K
command	Q
committee	X
common	R
company	O
complaint	P
complete	R
concern	T
condition	S
conference	T
connection	Q
consider	R
consideration	U
contain	O
contract	M
convenient	X
convention	R
convict	Q
copy	N
cordially	W
cost	K
could	K
country	L
course	S
court	N
cover	J
crowd	Q
cut	I
dark	J
dash	L
date	L
daughter	P
day	H
dead	L
deal	M
dear	I
death	N
debate	Q
December	N
decide	T
decision	Y
declare	Q
deep	J
degree	P
delay	K
department	P
desire	P
destroy	P
develop	U
diamond	R
did	F

died	M
difference	S
different	R
difficulty	U
direct	O
direction	Q
director	R
disappoint	X
discussion	V
distinguish	U
distribute	R
district	O
divide	U
do	A
doctor	N
does	P
dollar	N
done	L
don't	O
door	H
doubt	S
down	J
dozen	N
dress	M
drill	M
driven	M
drown	R
due	Q
during	O
duty	O
each	I
earliest	U
early	L
east	J
easy	K
eat	H
education	R
effect	R
effort	Q
eight	O
either	Q
elaborate	U
elect	O
election	P
else	N
emergency	W
empire	P
employ	Q
enclose	Q
end	I
engage	Q
engine	P
enjoy	P
enough	O
enter	M
entertain	R
entire	Q
entitle	T
entrance	P
escape	P
especially	X
estate	Q
estimate	T
even	K
evening	N
event	M
ever	L
every	J
everything	O
evidence	V
examination	S
except	N
expect	N
expense	U
experience	V
express	L
extra	M
extreme	W
eye	K
face	I
fact	O
factory	Q
fail	K
fair	N
fall	I
family	P
famous	Q
far	I
farther	O
father	L
favor	P
feature	R
February	W
feel	N
feet	I
fell	L
felt	K
few	M
field	Q
fifth	N
fight	L
figure	O
file	M
fill	J
final	Q
finally	U
find	I
fine	J
finish	K
fire	J
firm	Q
first	K
five	H
fix	M
flight	P
flower	L
folks	T
follow	M
foot	I
for	H
foreign	U
forenoon	R
forget	J
form	I
fortune	P
forty	O
forward	Q
found	J
four	L
fourth	O
free	I
Friday	K
friend	O
from	J
front	N

full	K	herself	L	is	C
further	S	high	L	issue	U
game	J	him	F	it	C
gave	I	himself	N	its	I
general	R	his	H	itself	N
gentleman	Q	history	N	jail	O
get	H	hold	M	January	N
getting	O	home	H	judge	O
giri	J	honor	R	judgment	Z
give	I	hope	J	July	K
glad	J	horse	K	June	L
glass	K	hot	G	just	H
go	B	hour	K	justice	Q
God	N	house	H	keep	K
goes	M	how	H	kill	G
goid	J	however	L	kind	J
gone	L	human	P	knew	O
good	E	hurt	K	know	L
got	I	husband	P	known	P
government	S	I	H	iady	K
grand	J	ice	G	lake	I
grant	L	If	H	iand	G
great	M	iliustrate	R	iarge	J
ground	L	immediate	X	last	E
guess	T	importance	P	iate	G
guest	P	important	Q	iaw	H
had	G	impossibie	T	iay	H
half	L	imprison	Q	lead	L
hand	G	improvement	S	iearn	N
happen	M	in	D	ieast	N
happy	J	include	Q	leave	L
hard	J	income	M	led	H
has	H	increase	R	iedge	Q
hat	G	indeed	L	left	J
have	G	inform	M	iength	P
he	E	information	Q	iess	M
head	K	injure	R	iesson	L
hear	N	inside	J	let	G
heard	N	inspect	N	letter	I
heart	M	instead	O	liberty	O
height	V	intend	O	iife	J
heid	L	interest	R	light	K
heip	J	into	F	like	F
her	H	investigate	S	iine	J
here	J	invitation	T	list	L

little	E	money	M	occupy	U
live	G	month	M	o'clock	P
iocal	S	more	J	October	N
iong	H	morning	L	of	F
iook	F	most	J	off	M
iose	R	mother	G	offer	N
ioss	P	motion	S	office	M
lost	J	mountain	M	officiai	T
lot	H	move	K	often	S
iove	H	Mr.	I	oid	E
low	H	Mrs.	P	omit	M
machine	R	much	H	on	B
madam	O	must	G	once	L
made	J	my	E	one	H
mail	K	name	J	only	K
majority	U	nationai	T	open	K
make	G	navy	O	opinion	S
man	D	near	J	or	I
manner	R	nearly	P	order	L
many	L	necessary	U	organization	W
March	L	need	N	organize	T
marriage	S	neighbor	R	other	H
materiai	U	neither	S	ought	T
matter	N	never	J	our	J
May	J	new	I	out	F
may	F	news	L	outside	J
maybe	K	newspaper	P	over	G
mayor	P	next	L	own	L
me	A	nice	I	page	I
mean	N	night	K	paid	M
meant	U	nine	I	pair	N
measure	Q	no	D	paper	I
meet	L	none	O	part	J
member	M	noon	J	particular	S
men	H	nor	N	party	K
mention	S	north	I	pass	K
mere	U	not	E	past	M
might	M	nothing	L	pay	J
miie	K	November	N	people	L
mind	L	now	D	perfect	O
mine	J	number	N	perhaps	Q
minute	T	object	R	period	Q
Miss	M	objection	O	person	N
miss	I	oblige	P	personal	O
Monday	I	obtain	P	picture	M

piece	S	publication	R	result	Q
place	J	publish	Q	retire	O
plan	N	purpose	R	return	M
plant	I	push	L	ride	I
play	G	put	I	right	L
pleasant	S	question	N	ring	G
please	M	quite	O	river	I
pleasure	O	race	J	road	L
point	L	railroad	M	room	J
police	O	rain	K	round	K
political	T	raise	O	royal	O
poor	K	ran	H	rule	N
popular	R	rapid	P	run	C
population	O	rate	O	running	Q
position	Q	rather	O	said	J
possible	S	reach	K	sail	P
post	J	read	J	salary	R
pound	K	ready	M	same	J
power	L	real	M	Saturday	Q
practical	W	really	T	saw	J
prefer	R	reason	N	say	G
preliminary	X	receipt	X	says	M
prepare	R	receive	U	scene	U
present	Q	recent	T	school	G
president	Q	recommend	Z	sea	G
press	N	recover	M	search	R
pretty	M	red	E	second	O
price	K	refer	T	secretary	V
primary	Q	reference	V	section	Q
principal	V	refuse	O	secure	R
principle	Y	regard	P	see	C
print	J	region	Q	seem	K
prison	P	relative	Q	seen	K
private	Q	relief	U	select	Q
probably	U	remain	O	senate	U
proceed	W	remember	Q	send	H
progress	Q	repair	P	sent	K
promise	R	reply	P	separate	W
prompt	Q	report	J	September	O
proper	O	represent	Q	serious	S
property	Q	request	O	serve	Q
prove	N	respectfully	U	service	R
provide	M	responsible	U	session	V
provision	R	rest	J	set	K
public	O	restrain	O	seven	J

several	P	stay	J	their	Q
shall	L	steamer	M	them	H
she	C	still	J	themselves	Q
shed	O	stole	M	then	H
ship	J	stone	I	there	N
short	K	stood	M	therefore	S
should	K	stop	L	these	K
show	I	stopped	S	they	K
shut	K	story	K	thing	I
sick	I	street	G	think	J
side	J	struck	O	third	L
sight	M	study	N	this	F
since	P	subject	N	those	M
sincerely	W	success	R	though	P
sir	K	such	L	thought	N
sister	J	sudden	O	three	G
sit	H	suffer	N	through	O
six	F	suggest	U	throw	O
size	N	suit	L	Thursday	O
slide	O	summer	L	thus	N
small	L	summon	T	ticket	M
so	D	Sunday	I	time	F
soap	L	supply	S	tire	N
soft	H	support	P	to	H
sold	I	suppose	Q	today	F
some	H	sure	N	together	R
something	N	surprise	Q	told	I
sometimes	Q	system	S	tomorrow	R
son	J	table	L	tonight	K
song	I	take	I	too	S
soon	I	talk	L	took	M
sorry	N	tax	N	top	D
south	J	teach	M	total	S
speak	M	teacher	N	toward	R
special	Q	tell	H	town	J
spell	K	ten	D	track	L
spend	P	tenth	K	train	J
spent	I	term	Q	travel	P
spring	I	terrible	Q	treasure	R
stamp	K	testimony	V	tree	I
stand	H	than	I	trip	L
start	K	thank	I	trouble	P
state	K	that	H	true	M
statement	Q	the	D	truly	O
station	O	theater	S	trust	M

try	K	warm	L	wind	J
Tuesday	O	was	H	winter	I
turn	L	watch	L	wire	M
two	K	water	K	wish	L
unable	M	way	H	with	J
uncle	O	we	E	within	L
under	J	wear	R	without	K
understand	M	weather	O	witness	S
unfortunate	U	Wednesday	T	woman	N
unless	L	week	K	women	Q
until	O	weigh	R	wonder	N
up	E	well	H	wonderful	Q
upon	K	went	I	word	J
us	E	were	L	work	J
use	N	west	I	world	L
usual	P	what	I	worth	O
vacation	P	when	J	would	K
various	T	where	K	wreck	R
very	I	whether	U	write	N
vessel	R	which	P	written	Q
victim	T	while	M	wrote	N
view	P	white	I	yard	H
visit	P	who	M	year	H
visitor	R	whole	O	yes	H
volume	T	whom	Q	yesterday	N
vote	N	whose	Q	yet	I
wait	P	why	J	you	E
walk	L	wife	K	young	N
want	J	will	E	your	F
war	L				

LIST C. THE THOUSAND WORDS ARRANGED IN THE ORDER IN WHICH THEY APPEAR IN THE FINAL SCALE. THE TWENTY-SIX GROUPS GIVEN HERE UNDER THE LETTERS FROM A TO Z ARE PRINTED UNDER THE SAME LETTERS ON THE SCALE

A			
	an	are	stand
me	my	had	yard
do	up	over	bring
	last	must	tell
B	not	make	five
	us	school	ball
and	am	street	law
go	good	say	ask
at	little	come	just
on	ago	hand	way
	old	ring	get
C	bad	live	home
	red	kill	much
a		late	call
it		let	long
is	F	big	love
she	of	mother	then
can	be	three	house
see	but	land	year
run	this	cold	to
	all	hot	I
D	your	hat	as
	out	child	send
the	time	ice	one
in	may	play	has
so	into	sea	some
no	him		if
now	today		how
man	look	H	her
ten	did	day	them
bed	like	eat	other
top	six	sit	baby
	boy	lot	well
E	book	box	about
		belong	men
he		door	for
you	G	yes	ran
will	by	low	was
we	have	soft	that

his
led
lay

I

nine
face
miss
ride
tree
sick
got
north
white
spent
foot
blow
block
spring
river
plant
cut
song
winter
stone
free
lake
page
nice
end
fall
feet
went
back
away
paper
put
each
soon
came
Sunday
show
Monday
yet
find

give
new
letter
take
Mr.
after
thing
what
than
its
very
or
thank
dear
west
sold
told
best
form
far
gave
alike
add

J

seven
forget
happy
noon
think
sister
cast
card
south
deep
inside
blue
post
town
stay
grand
outside
dark
band
game

boat
rest
east
son
help
hard
race
cover
fire
age
gold
read
fine
cannot
May
line
left
ship
train
saw
pay
large
near
down
why
bill
want
girl
part
still
place
report
never
found
side
kind
life
here
car
word
every
under
most
made
said

work
our
more
when
from
wind
print
air
fill
along
lost
name
room
hope
same
glad
with
mine

K

became
brother
rain
keep
start
mall
eye
glass
party
upon
two
they
would
any
could
should
city
only
where
week
first
sent
mile
seem
even

without
afternoon
Friday
hour
wife
state
July
head
story
open
short
lady
reach
better
water
round
cost
price
become
class
horse
care
try
move
delay
pound
behind
around
burn
camp
bear
clear
clean
spell
poor
finish
hurt
maybe
across
tonight
tenth
sir
these
club
seen

felt
full
fail
set
stamp
light
coming
cent
night
pass
shut
easy

L

catch
black
warm
unless
clothing
began
able
gone
suit
track
watch
dash
fell
fight
buy
stop
walk
grant
soap
news
small
war
summer
above
express
turn
lesson
half
father
anything
table

high
talk
June
right
date
road
March
next
indeed
four
herself
power
wish
because
world
country
meet
another
trip
list
people
ever
held
church
once
own
before
know
were
dead
leave
early
close
flower
nothing
ground
lead
such
many
morning
however
mind
shall
alone
order

third
push
point
within
done
body

M

trust
extra
dress
beside
teach
happen
begun
collect
file
provide
sight
stood
fix
born
goes
hold
drill
army
pretty
stole
income
bought
paid
enter
railroad
unable
ticket
account
driven
real
recover
mountain
steamer
speak
past
might
begin

contract
deal
almost
brought
less
event
off
true
took
again
inform
both
heart
month
children
build
understand
follow
charge
says
member
case
while
also
return
those
office
great
Miss
who
died
change
wire
few
please
picture
money
ready
omit
anyway

N

except
aunt
capture
wrote
else
bridge
offer
suffer
built
center
front
rule
carry
chain
death
learn
wonder
tire
pair
check
prove
heard
inspect
itself
always
something
write
expect
need
thus
woman
young
fair
dollar
evening
plan
broke
feel
sure
least
sorry
press
God
teacher
November
subject
April
history
cause
study
himself
matter
use
thought
person
nor
January
mean
vote
court
copy
act
been
yesterday
among
question
doctor
hear
size
December
dozen
there
tax
number
October
reason
fifth

O

eight
afraid
uncle
rather
comfort
elect
aboard
jail
shed
retire
refuse
district
restrain
royal
objection
pleasure
navy
fourth
population
proper
judge
weather
worth
contain
figure
sudden
forty
instead
throw
personal
everything
rate
chief
perfect
second
slide
farther
duty
intend
company
quite
none
knew
remain
direct
appear
liberty
enough
fact
board
September
station
attend
between
public
friend
during
through
police

until
madam
truly
whole
address
request
raise
August
Tuesday
struck
getting
don't
Thursday

P

spend
enjoy
awful
usual
complaint
auto
vacation
beautiful
flight
travel
rapid
repair
trouble
entrance
importance
carried
loss
fortune
empire
mayor
wait
beg
degree
prison
engine
visit
guest
department
obtain
family
favor
Mrs.
husband
amount
human
view
election
clerk
though
o'clock
support
does
regard
escape
since
which
length
destroy
newspaper
daughter
answer
reply
oblige
sail
cities
known
several
desire
nearly

Q

sometimes
declare
engage
final
terrible
surprise
period
addition
employ
property
select
connection
firm
region
convict
private
command
debate
crowd
factory
publish
represent
term
section
relative
progress
entire
president
measure
famous
serve
estate
remember
either
effort
important
due
include
running
allow
position
field
ledge
claim
primary
result
Saturday
appoint
information
whom
arrest
themselves
special
women
present
action
justice
gentleman
enclose
await
suppose
wonderful
direction
forward
although
prompt
attempt
whose
statement
perhaps
their
imprison
written
arrange

R

forenoon
lose
combination
avenue
neighbor
weigh
wear
entertain
salary
visitor
publication
machine
toward
success
drown
adopt
secure
honor
promise
wreck
prepare
vessel
busy
prefer
illustrate
different
object
provision

according
already
attention
education
director
purpose
common
diamond
together
convention
increase
manner
feature
article
service
injure
effect
distribute
general
tomorrow
consider
against
complete
search
treasure
popular
Christmas
interest

S

often
stopped
motion
theater
improvement
century
total
mention
arrive
supply
assist
difference
examination
particular
affair
course
neither
local
marriage
further
serious
doubt
condition
government
opinion
believe
system
possible
piece
certain
witness
investigate
therefore
too
pleasant

T

guess
circular
argument
volume
organize
summon
official
victim
estimate
accident
invitation
accept
impossible
concern
associate
automobile
various
decide
entitle
political
national
recent
business
refer
minute
ought
absence
conference
Wednesday
really
celebration
folks

U

meant
earliest
whether
distinguish
consideration
colonies
assure
relief
occupy
probably
foreign
expense
responsible
beginning
application
difficulty
scene
finally
develop
circumstance
issue
material
suggest
mere
senate
receive
respectfully
agreement
unfortunate
majority
elaborate
citizen
necessary
divide

V

principal
testimony
discussion
arrangement
reference
evidence
experience
session
secretary
association
career
height

W

organization
emergency
appreciate
sincerely
athletic
extreme
practical
proceed
cordially
character
separate
February

X

immediate
convenient
receipt
preliminary
disappoint
especially
annual
committee

Y

decision
principle

Z

judgment
recommend
allege

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